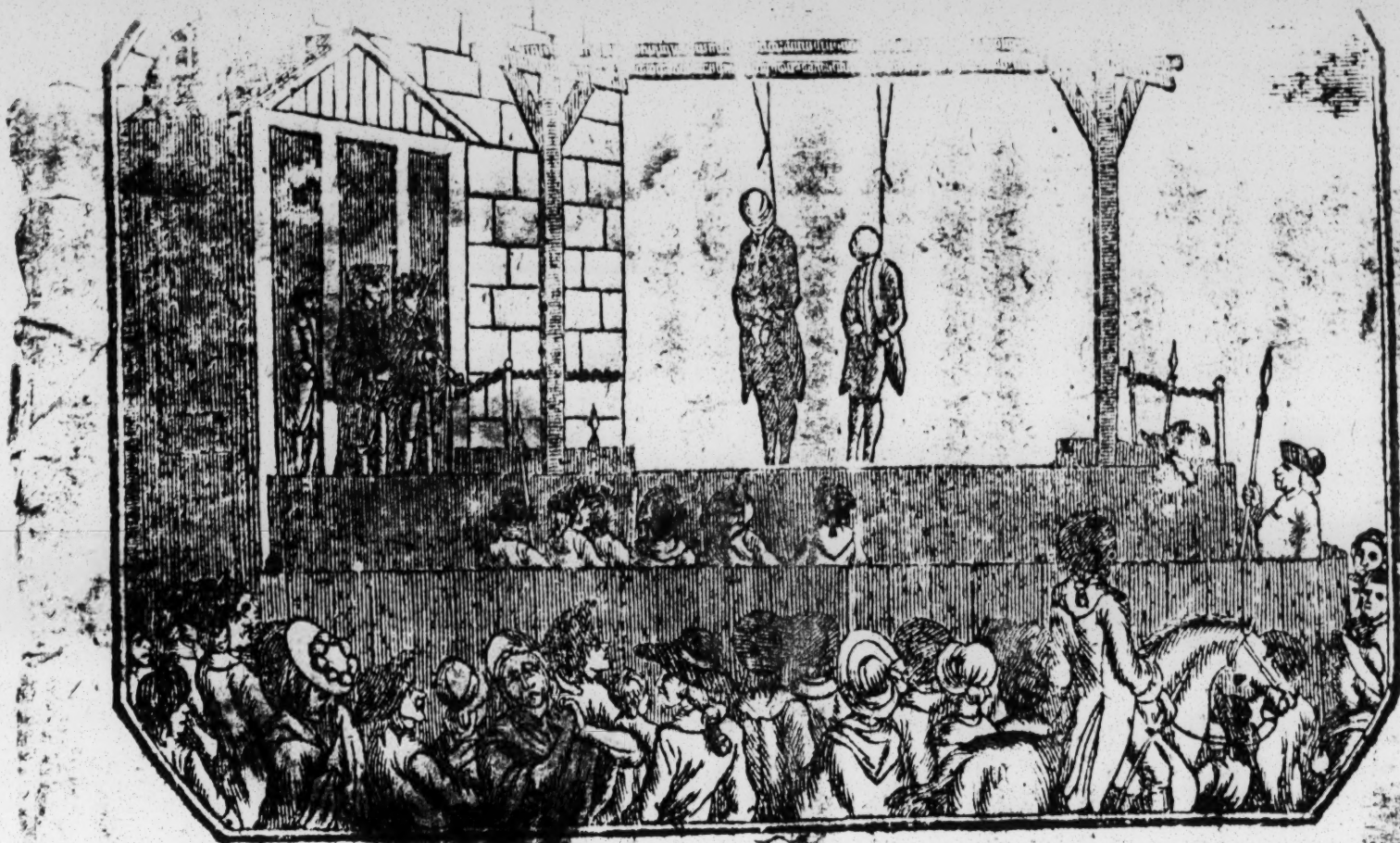




The Dying Speech and Confession, Life, Character, and Behaviour, OF THE UNFORTUNATE

MALEFACTORS,

Executed this Day before the Debtors-Door, *Newgate*.

ON Friday the report was made to his Majesty in council, of the convicts under sentence of death in Newgate, when John Wilkinson and Mark Powell were ordered for execution on Thursday the 27th of July.

Mark Powell, Clerk to Messrs. Hirdcastle and Co. of Thames-street, merchant, cast for forging his master's draft on Mess. Bland, Baint, Hoare, and Hill, of Lombard-street, for 450l. 14s.

The prisoner, before this unfortunate affair, bore an universal good character, was just married to a young lady of a genteel fortune, (which he was soon to receive) and who was with him at Snaith when he was apprehended.—It seems he committed the forgery to answer an intermediate purpose in trade, intending to repay it when he received the money he was entitled to by his marriage, and without any apprehension of the dangerous consequences of the offence.

Since conviction, he has behaved in a manner becoming his wretched situation. The day before his execution, he took leave of his wife, when the scene was so mournful as to draw tears from the eyes of those present.

He was, at the time of his execution, only twenty-four years of age; a stout, lively young man; and, but for this rash action, might have seen many happy days.

John Wilkinson, cast for feloniously robbing the house of his master, Mr. Owen Connolly, a publican, near the Seven Stars, &c.

The prisoner had been hired but a few days to Mr. Connolly, who kept a pub-

lick house, when he robbed him, in the following manner:

Being told that he might go to bed, instead of retiring to his own room he crept into his master's, where he lay concealed till his master and mistress were asleep, when he stripped the room of cash and plate to the value of fifty pounds, and made his escape out of the house.

A hue-and-cry being issued, he was the next day apprehended, with part of the booty in his possession. He made a full confession of the whole affair, and, being acquainted with the man, John Clay—a slave, he persuaded his master, in order to supply his necessities.

He was much pined on account of his youth, it being well known that the above mentioned Small Clay—generally brings a young man to the gallows every session.

The morning of execution being arrived, they were brought upon the scaffold, and tied to the fatal tree. Powell confessed the forgery, but said he meant to return the money. Wilkinson desired all young men would shun the company of a bad woman.

After prayers they were launched into eternity.

Powell, just before the cap was pulled over his eye, took a ring off his finger, and putting it in a paper, gave it a friend to deliver to his wife.

You who saw their fatal end,
From vice let virtue you defend,
From sinful ways make haste and fly—
Left on the gallows you should die.
There meet a shameful felon's fate,
And wisdom learn when 'tis too late.